

Remarks

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 7, 14, 24, 27 and 30 and objected to claims 2-6, 8-13, 14, 15-23, 25, 26, 28, 31 and 32. Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-32 have been amendment and claims 2 and 6 have been cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-6, 8-13, 15-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31 and 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. This has been done. The limitations of dependent claims 2 and 6 have been incorporated into independent claim 1; dependent claims 2 and 6 have been cancelled; and dependent claims 3 and 7 have been amended so that they depend upon claim 1, not one of the cancelled claims.

II. Claim Objection

Claim 14 has been objected to by the Examiner based on a grammatical error. Claim 14 has been amended to change "though" to read –through—as suggested by the Examiner.

III. Rejection of claims 1, 7, 14, 24, 27, and 30 under 35 USC 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 7, 14, 24, 27 and 30 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Henkes, Jr. (US 3,963,933).

As stated above, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the

limitations of claims 2 and 6, each of which the Examiner stated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 7, 14, 24, 27 and 30 are dependent upon amendment claim 1 and thus should also now be allowable for the same reason.

IV. Other Amendments

Claims 3-5 and 7-32 have been amended to remove an unneeded comma. Language in claim 21 that is now-redundant in view of an amendment to claim 1 has also been removed.

V. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place this application in condition for allowance, which Applicant respectfully solicits.

A petition for a three-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is being filed contemporaneously herewith. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 501946 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account and reference attorney docket no. 64693-070.

Respectfully submitted,
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